Peace Psychology 2009

Division 48 Presidential Address
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Eduardo I. Diaz, Ph.D
President
Society for the Study of Peace, Conflict and Violence: Peace Psychology
Division 48 of the American Psychological Association (APA)
www.peacepsych.org

Executive Director
Miami-Dade County Independent Review Panel (IRP)
www.miamidade.gov/irp
eid@miamidade.gov
Introduction

• Presenter is currently President of the Society for the Study of Peace, Conflict and Violence: the Peace Psychology Division of the American Psychological Association (APA). He is also immediate Past President of the National Association for Civilian Oversight of Law Enforcement (NACOLE).

• Presenter has 27 years of experience as a Psychologist working in Criminal Justice related public service, with 13 of those years at Miami-Dade County’s Independent Review Panel (IRP).

• Presenter will provide an update on the status of Peace Psychology research and practice locally, nationally and internationally.
Learning Objectives

• Articulation of basic Peace Psychology principles
• Enhanced awareness of APA Peace Psychology Division structure and activities
• Skill development useful in violence reduction, community building and dispute resolution
• Links to Peace Psychology resources
Dedication

• This presentation is dedicated to all of the Peace Psychology pioneers who laid the foundation for the Society for the Study of Peace, Conflict and Violence: Peace Psychology Division (48) of the American Psychological Association
Peace Psychologists Engage In:

• Scholarship
  • Academics
  • Education
  • Research
• Practice
  • Independent Practice
  • Government
  • Foundations
• Activism
  • Corporate
  • Individual
  • Psychologists for Social Responsibility (PsySR)
Scholarship
Scholarship

The following compilation of Peace Psychology course descriptions, topics and references to the literature was provided by Society Past President:

Daniel J. Christie
Professor Emeritus of Psychology
Ohio State University, USA
christie.1@osu.edu

Thank you!
Peace Psychology I

• **Negative Peace: Conflict and the Prevention of Violence**

  The course explores negative peace, which refers to conditions that foster the absence of violence. A key distinction is the perception of incompatible goals (conflict) by individuals or groups versus coercive actions (violence) in pursuit of those goals. The sources and consequences of conflict and violence are explored. Then three points of intervention are examined: during the (1) conflict, (2) violence, or (3) post-violence phase.

• Emphasis is placed on thoughts, feelings, and actions that can prevent violence, deescalate violent episodes, and reconcile relationships in the aftermath of violence.
Peace Psychology II

• Positive Peace: Promoting Structural and Cultural Peace

• Comprehensive peace means not only the prevention of violent episodes (Peace Psychology I) but also the creation of a more equitable social order that meets the basic needs and rights of all people (Peace Psychology II). This course explores positive peace, which refers to social and cultural transformations that reduce structural violence, an insidious form of violence that kills people slowly through the deprivation of human need satisfaction. Emphasis is placed on concepts and psychological processes that are sources of structural and cultural violence. In addition, the course examines ways of reducing social, racial, gender, economic, and ecological injustices as well as the kinds of thoughts, feelings, and actions of individuals and groups that promote socially just arrangements. Methods of building and sustaining peaceful relationships are also explored.
Peace Psychology I Course Outline

I. Introduction to Peace Psychology
II. Conflict and Violence
   A. Conflict: Sources and Consequences
   B. Violence: Sources and Consequences
III. Points of Intervention: During Conflict, Violence, or Post-Violence
   A. Intervening During Conflict
   B. Intervening During Episodes and Cycles of Violence
   C. Post-Violence Peacebuilding
Peace Psychology II Course Outline

I. Sources of Structural and Cultural Violence

II. Decreasing Structural and Cultural Violence

III. Systems Analysis and Intervention: Treating the Whole System

IV. Sustaining and Building on Peaceful Relations
Introduction to Peace Psychology

Comparing Peace Studies and Peace Education
• Harris, I. (2002). Conceptual underpinnings of peace education. In G. Salomon & B. Nevo (Eds.), Peace education: The concept, principles, and practices around the world (pp. 15-26), Mahwah, New Jersey: Lawrence Erlbaum Associates

What is Peace Psychology the Psychology of?

Peace Psychology Concepts: Obstacles to and Catalysts for Peace

Overlap of Social and Peace Psychology

A Model of Peace Psychology: Overview of Course
Conflict: Sources and Consequences

Intergroup Bias: Measurement, Theories, and Moderators

Patriotism versus Nationalism: On Love and Hate!

Infrahumanization: “We’re humans; they’re animals!”

Stereotypes and Dehumanization

Images of the Other: Enemy, Barbarian, Ally, Imperialist, or Dependent?

Intergroup Threats and Conflict

Conflict as a Result of Diminishing Environmental Resources
Violence: Sources and Consequences

The Power of the Situation: When Good People do Evil Things!

• Zimbardo, P. G. (2004). A situationist perspective on the psychology of evil: Understanding how good people are transformed into perpetrators. In A. Miller (Ed.), The social psychology of good and evil: Understanding our capacity for kindness and cruelty (pp. 21-50). New York: Guilford.
  

Conflict Escalation: When Bias Leads to Violence


Prejudice and Discrimination: From Thought to Feelings to Actions


Continuum of Destruction: From Insults to Genocide


Dangerous Ideologies that Set the Stage for Violence

Violence: Sources and Consequences

Intractable Conflicts and Cycles of Violence

Terrorism: Some Psychological and Cultural Roots

A Consequence of Terrorism: Cycles of Violence

Psychology of Militarism
Intervening During Conflict

Enthnocultural Empathy

Anti-bias Interventions

Conflict Resolution

Intergroup Contact Theory

Why Intergroup Contact Works!
Intervening During Conflict

Applying Intergroup Contact Theory in Malaysia

No Intergroup Peace without Intragroup Peace: Reconciling Differences within Groups

Building Intergroup Trust

The Role of Cognitive Complexity in Intergroup Relations

Soft Power
Intervening During Episodes and Cycles of Violence

Peacekeeping Operations and the Issue of Morale

Co-existing in Times of Violence

Third Party Interventions

Deescalating Conflict and Violence

Breaking Cycles of Violence
Post-Violence Peacebuilding

Reintegrating Soldiers into Society

As Quarreling Children Would Say: “Let Us Baku Bae” (Resume our Friendship)

Collective Memory and Reconciliation

Intergroup Contact and Reconciliation
Post-Violence Peacebuilding

Dialogue, Forgiveness, and Reconciliation

Cultural Sensitivity and Reconciliation

Some Principles of Reconciliation
Sources of Structural and Cultural Violence

Social Dominance Orientation


Psychological Roots of Social Injustice


The Tension between Colonization and Democratization: Peace Psychology in Asia


Social Representations and the Legacy of Inequality


System-Justifying Ideologies


Strengthening System Justification: The Threat of Terrorism

Decreasing Structural and Cultural Violence

Psychology of Collective Action

Liberation Psychology: Empowering the Oppressed

Methods of Liberation Psychology

Liberating the Hijab!

Collective Action and Structural Peacebuilding

Islamic Education and Social Justice
Systems Analysis and Intervention: Treating the Whole System

• A Systems Perspective on Violence and Peace

A Systems Analysis of Terrorism

Psychology of Martyrdom: A Systems View

Changing Social Policies
Sustaining and Building on Peaceful Relations

How Will We Know We are Building Peaceful Relations? Measuring Cultures of Peace

Psychologically-informed Policies that Build Cultures of Peace

Strengthening Relations through Humanitarian Assistance

Building Peaceful Relations in Asia

Personal Transformation: The Nonviolent Person
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Download 2001 Christie, Wagner & Winter Peace Psychology Book At:
http://academic.marion.ohio-state.edu/dchristie/Peace%20Psychology%20Book.html

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Practice
Samples of Peace Psychology Practice

- Independent
  - Private Practice
- Government
  - Civilian Oversight of Law Enforcement
- Foundations
  - Consultation
The Division of Peace Psychology, established within the American Psychological Association (APA) in 1990, is a growing organization consisting of psychologists, students, and professional affiliates from diverse disciplines.

www.peacepsych.org
Society 2009 Executive Committee

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- **Newsletter Editor**, Michael R. Hulsizer, Webster University, St. Louis, MO
- **Internet Editor**, Linda Woolf, Webster University, St. Louis, MO
- **Student and Early Career Working Group Chair**, Silvia Susnjic, Institute for Conflict Analysis and Resolution, George Mason University, Arlington, VA
Vision Statement

• As peace psychologists, our vision is the development of sustainable societies through the prevention of destructive conflict and violence, the amelioration of its consequences, the empowerment of individuals, and the building of cultures of peace and global community.
Purpose

• The purpose of the division is to increase and apply psychological knowledge in the pursuit of peace. Peace here is defined broadly to include both the absence of war and the creation of positive social conditions which minimize destructive conflicts and promote human well-being.
The specific goals of the Peace Division are:

1) to encourage psychological research, education, and training on issues concerning peace, nonviolent conflict resolution, reconciliation, and the causes, consequences and prevention of war and other forms of destructive conflict;

2) to provide an organization that fosters communication among researchers, teachers, and practitioners who are working on peace issues; and

3) to apply the knowledge and the methods of psychology in the advancement of peace, non-violent conflict resolution, reconciliation, and the prevention of war and other forms of destructive conflict.
Membership Information

• The Society for the Study of Peace, Conflict, and Violence: Peace Psychology functions as Division 48 of the American Psychological Association (APA). It is not necessary to belong to the APA in order to be a member of the Society.

• We welcome all new members who share an interest in peace!

• Membership benefits include a subscription to our journal *Peace and Conflict: Journal of Peace Psychology*, our newsletter *Peace Psychology*, and participation on our listservs to meet and network with other peace psychology advocates.
Journal

- Peace and Conflict: Journal of Peace Psychology
  - ISSN: 1532-7949 (electronic) 1078-1919 (paper)
  - Publication Frequency: 4 issues per year
  - Publisher: Routledge: Taylor & Francis Group
Aims & Scope

• “This unique journal is guided by the vision of a world in which peaceful means of resolving conflict prevail over violent ones and in which equity and social justice are hallmarks of all relations--family, community, national, and international. Its scholarly articles cover a wide array of topics, including the diverse causes and consequences of war and other forms of destructive conflict, as well as peace-making and reconciliation, prevention, and sustainable development. Issues about children and family, ethnicity, and feminism have been prominent in articles about both direct and structural violence. The journal publishes a mixture of empirical, theoretical, clinical, and historical work, as well as policy analyses, book reviews, and bibliographic essays. It seeks to be truly international and welcomes authors from all parts of the world.”
Peace Psychology: Social Justice at Home and Abroad

APA 2008 Annual Convention, Boston

See pull-out program summary on page 19
Activism
Activism

• Psychologists for Social Responsibility (PsySR)
• http://www.psysr.org/
• “Building Cultures of Peace with Social Justice”
Restorative Justice

- Contrasts with Retributive Justice.
- Strives to restore relationships to non-offending status.
- Involves engagement of:
  - Offender
  - Victim
  - Government
  - Community
Aggression and Violence

• Dr. Susan Opotow
• John Jay College of Criminal Justice
  City University of New York
• sopotow@jjay.cuny.edu
• Research Focus
  • Conflict and injustice
  • Psychosocial conditions permitting harm
  • Scope of Justice
Nature of Violence

• Violence – The exertion of physical (or psychological) force that harms.
• Direct Violence – That committed by identifiable people on particular victims.
• Structural Violence – Harm that comes from subtle, gradual, systematized, normally accepted actions of particular social institutions where responsibility is blurred. (Determines who gets heard, who gets devalued and who gets resources.)
• Direct and Structural Violence manifest differently but are interdependent
Examples of Direct Violence

- Hate crimes
- Ethnic cleansing
- Rape
- Murder
- War
- Police brutality
Examples of Structural Violence

- Poverty
- Unemployment
- Discrimination (Racism, sexism, etc.)
- Poor health care, schools or housing
- Racial profiling
- Corrupt political system
- Poor accountability for misuse of power
Basis of Social Injustice

- Distorted Perceptions
- Distorted Thoughts
- Distorted Moral Decisions
- In-group Rationalizations
- Self-serving Justifications
- Social, Psychological, Economic, and Political Conditions That Privilege Some But Exclude Others
Moral Exclusion

• Morals- Norms, rights, entitlements, obligations, responsibilities and duties that shape our sense of justice and guide our behavior with others.

• Moral Community- Those we value inside our “scope of justice”, family, friends, compatriots and coreligionists. “US”

• Morally Excludable- Strangers outside our scope of justice and enemies. “THEM”
Psychological Bases for Moral Exclusion

Tendency to exclude is fostered by normal perceptual tendencies:
1. Social categorization
2. Evaluative judgments
3. Fundamental attribution error
4. Self-serving biases
5. Zero-sum thinking
6. Attributive projection
7. Just world thinking
Dimensions of Moral Exclusion

• Intensity
  • Subtle (nearly invisible)
  • Blatant (clearly observable)

• Engagement
  • Active (participating)
  • Passive (ignoring what is happening)

• Extent
  • Narrow (focused on a particular few)
  • Wide (involving masses of people)
Psychological Orientation of Those Who Exclude “THEM”

- Views the excluded as distant psychologically
- Lacks constructive moral obligations or responsibility toward the excluded
- Views “THEM” as nonentities, expendable and undeserving of fairness, resources or sacrifices to foster well-being
- Approves of procedures and outcomes for “THEM” that would be unacceptable for the ones inside their scope of justice
It Is Difficult To Detect Social Injustice Because:

1. Social injustice does not surface as a moral issue.
2. Social injustice is hard to see up close.
3. Indecision and inaction abets social injustice.
4. Combating social injustice consumes resources.
To Foster Social Justice:

1. Welcome open dialogue and critique.
2. Establish procedures that keep communication channels open during increased conflict.
3. Value pluralism and measured acceptance of the different.
4. Be alert to symptoms of moral exclusion.
5. Challenge injustice constructively.
Racial Profiling

- Miami-Dade Racial Profiling Board www.miamidade.gov/irp
- Tools for Tolerance for Law Enforcement www.toolsfortolerance.com
- Biased Based Policing Prevention
- Investments in Training versus Data Collection
Recommended Reading


Contact Information

• Dr. Eduardo I. Diaz, Executive Director
  Independent Review Panel

• 140 West Flagler Street, Suite 1101, Miami, FL 33130

• Tel# 305-375-4880

• Fax# 305-375-4879

• Email eid@miamidade.gov

• www.miamidade.gov/irp